

Inspire! Adult Learning Awards

Guidance notes

Gwobrau Addysg
Oedolion

Ysbrydoli!TM
Inspire!TM

Adult Learning
Awards

Closing date - 31 March 2023
This document is available in Welsh

L&W SEFYDLIAD DYSGU A GWAITH
LEARNING AND WORK INSTITUTE



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

This document is available in [Welsh](#).

What are the Inspire! Adult Learning Awards?

Lifelong learning benefits everyone and it has the power to change lives.

The Inspire! Awards celebrate the achievements of people, organisations and community projects in Wales who have experienced the transformational power of learning. They highlight the impact of adult and lifelong learning, and is a chance to demonstrate the value of investing in life changing opportunities.

We are working with partners to inspire more people to continue to learn, develop their skills and take up opportunities for lifelong learning.

The awards are organised by Learning and Work Institute, in partnership with Welsh Government and other partners.

The awards ceremony will take place as part of [Adult Learners' Week](#).

Inspire us!

Inspire us by making a nomination, we are looking for individuals, projects, and organisations whose learning achievements will inspire others to return to or take up learning - people who have improved their lives and /or the lives of others and gained a positive or life changing experience from adult learning.

2023 Award Categories

- Skills for Work
- Young Adult Learner
- Life Change & Progression
- Ageing Well
- Starting Out – Welsh Beginner
- Different Past: Shared Futures
- Essential Skills for Life
- Wales for Future Generations
- Hywel Francis Award for Community Impact
- Workplace Change Makers

A guide to submitting your nomination – please read below carefully

- Entries are free and open to individuals and organisations living and working in Wales
- Learning can be accredited or non-accredited and take place in any setting, from workplace to online, in the home or in the community

- Anyone aged 16 or over can nominate / be nominated for an Inspire! Award, please refer to the guidance on each category
- At Learning and Work we are dedicated to supporting equality and diversity and to improving access to education for all groups. We welcome nominations from all backgrounds and with all different kinds of life experiences and abilities.
- Entrants for the individual categories must be nominated by another person – this could be a friend, mentor, a colleague, family member, or employer who is well known to the individual nominated
- Entries for the project / organisation categories should be written by a team or project leader and endorsed by a senior manager / referee who knows the provision well. We also welcome statements from learners/employees involved in the project / organisation to support the nomination.
- Your application will be judged on the information you provide in your entry so please make sure you read the Inspire! Awards categories criteria below to help with this and include as much detail in your statements. Supporting documents are also welcome.
- Both nominee and nominator statements must be completed, please refer to our guide on ['how to submit a successful nomination form'](#) to help you with your form

Closing date for entries: Friday 31st March 2023

How does the selection process work?

- An independent panel of judges from the learning, skills and media sector will select the final category award winners
- Nominees who are shortlisted may be contacted again prior to the final selection panel meeting to provide further information to support their nomination.
- We would like any nomination for the Inspire! Awards to be a catalyst for celebrating the stories of adult learning. We would encourage anyone nominating for the awards to use the process to celebrate each nominee with local/regional award ceremonies and to join the Adult Learners' Week festival to do this.
- All nominations selected as award winners will have their stories shared through press and media – this will include filming and press releases.
- The nominators of all Inspire! award winners will be notified in May 2023

There are three ways to submit your nomination

Email - please email your [completed form](#) to: inspire@learningandwork.org.uk

Online - submit your nomination [via our online form](#) (to be completed in one sitting we recommend writing out your statements in [the word document](#) before you start).

Film - submit your nomination statements via a short video clip of no more than 5 minutes. Complete sections 1 and 3 in [the nomination form](#), capture and upload your video clip to YouTube as an *Unlisted* or *Private* link – send both nomination and video link to: inspire@learningandwork.org.uk

Inspire! Awards 2023 categories

Skills for Work

For many people, the incentive for developing their skills is to improve their job prospects, to access work for the first time or after a long period of economic inactivity. Good work offers people the opportunity to continue to learn and develop skills in the workplace, leading to progression and sustainable employment.

This award recognises an individual who can demonstrate outstanding determination to improve their employability through learning and who can demonstrate the role that learning has played in securing a job or the learning involved to achieve progression in work.

[Jenna Smith](#) – 2022 award winner

[Daniel Jones](#) 2021 award winner

[Chloe Young](#) 2020 award winner

Young Adult Learner

For some the first experience of education is not always positive but many young people return to post-compulsory education because they want to make a positive change and build a better future. Some young people may not have been able to fully engage with school because of caring responsibilities or may have experienced disruption in their lives for other reasons.

The winner of this award will be a person who has shown real commitment to their own learning journey, and who is one to watch for the future!

This award is open to any learner aged between 16 – 25 (we particularly welcome nominations on behalf of care experienced young people, care leavers and young carers).

[Ewan Heppenstall](#) – 2022 award winner

[Wilnelia De Jesus](#) 2021 award winner

Life Change & Progression

We know that learning creates opportunities for people to get on in life, work and at home. Sometimes staying motivated and committed to learning can be hard, and many people face significant barriers to overcome. As the population grows and ages and new technology develops, we are all working for longer, changing careers more often and learning new skills throughout our lives.

This award recognises an adult learner who has progressed in their learning, perhaps against the odds, through different stages, to university or into their dream job. The winner of this award will be someone who has really caught the learning bug. This maybe someone who has changed

their life, career path or tackled health challenges through learning. This award winner will demonstrate that it's never too late for a second chance, a new direction or a fresh start!

[Karryann Healey](#) – 2022 award winner

[Emma Williams](#) 2020 award winner

[John Spence](#) 2018 award winner

Essential and Life skills

Literacy, numeracy, digital, financial capability, health literacy and citizenship are central to people's job and career prospects, wellbeing and ability to be active and engaged in their communities. Economic and social changes, and the advance of technology, are increasing their importance.

This award winner will demonstrate the impact of building essential skills and the transformation it can have, this may be increasing confidence, accessing work/work progression, supporting family relationships, the ability to engage more with public services and social interactions.

[Bethan Humphreys](#) – 2022 award winner

[Clare Palmer](#) 2021 award winner

Ageing Well

Learning in later life makes a significant contribution to tackling loneliness, staying connected, maintaining an active lifestyle. This award recognises the value of continuing to learn and gain new skills into older age, it will demonstrate the contribution that many older people make to lifelong learning. The award winner should demonstrate why they have continued to learn or engage in learning in later life, they may be active in sustaining self-organised learning in their community or may be passing on their skills across generations. This award is open to learners over the age of 60.

[John and Val Snare](#) – 2022 award winners

[Phyllis Gregory](#) 2021 award winner

[Ralph Handscomb](#) 2020 award winner

Starting Out – Welsh Beginner

The ambition in Wales is to create a million Welsh speakers by 2050. For adults, there are opportunities to learn online, through a community class or in the workplace. This award recognises an individual who has made a start at learning Welsh by following a Learn Welsh course at Entry or Foundation level. We aren't expecting the award-winner to have fully mastered the language; however, we would like entrants to have demonstrated a commitment to developing their skills in Welsh and to using the language with their family, in their community or workplace.

[Tom Dyer](#) – 2022 award winner

[Liz Day](#) and [Josh Osbourne](#) 2021 joint award winners

[Joseff Gnagbo](#) 2020 award winner

Different Past: Shared Futures

Wales has a proud and diverse cultural heritage and a long-standing history in welcoming and supporting forced migrant and refugee communities. This award will recognise the achievements and contribution made by those who have chosen to make new lives here in Wales. We are looking for an individual who has accessed learning and developed their skills, leading them onto further learning, employment, or volunteering.

[Hisham Saeed](#) and [Zaina Aljumma](#) – joint award winners 2022

[Fatma Al-Nahdy](#) 2021 award winner

Hywel Francis Award for Community Impact

For many people, the route back into learning starts close to home, in a community venue, or as part of a community project. Many community projects recognise the role of education and skills as a key enabler that will give people the confidence they need to succeed.

This award recognises the impact of a community project that has successfully used learning as a key tool to get people helping themselves and others. The winner of this award will be a project that works with people who would not otherwise engage in formal or informal education or training, or who need a second chance.

[Springboard – Learning Pembrokeshire](#) – 2022 award winner

[Stepping Stones North Wales](#) 2021 award winner

[Community Impact Initiative](#) 2020 award winner

Workplace Change Makers

Investing in skills at work benefits all in the workplace. Upskilling workers improves communication, working relationships and productivity while reducing absence levels and raising staff morale.

We want to recognise organisations creating positive change in the workplace, driving forward opportunities for learning and development where the achievements, successes and impact on individuals and teams can be demonstrated.

This award aims to clearly show both the business benefits to the organisation and the workers. It can showcase inclusivity, innovation and good practice models of learning and development; delivered by workforce partnerships. This may include improving career progression, delivering opportunities for those who may have had fewer chances to develop their skills at work or creating inspirational partnerships to meet objectives and accomplish sustainable outcomes.

The nomination may focus on a specific learning project or scheme within a workplace, it may be a whole organisation approach (large or small) to engaging with, developing, and supporting people; or it may be activity which has been led by trade unions and or other partners such as third sector and training providers.

[Ceredigion County Council – Learning and Development Team](#) – 2022 award winner

[UNISON Cymru Wales WULF Project](#) 2021 award winner

[Nursing Students of The Open University in Wales](#) 2021 award winner

[Chwarae Teg Agile Nation 2](#) 2020 award winner

Wales for Future Generations

Wales has led the way in legislating for the well-being of future generations and setting national well-being goals that cover global responsibility, ecological resilience, prosperity, health, culture and Welsh language, community cohesion and equality.

Education is essential in developing understanding of environmental issues and sustainability and providing tools for individuals and communities to take action, learn new skills and find solutions to the local and global challenges we face. Reshaping what and how we learn to live in a sustainable way is a dynamic process. New learning pathways are being developed to focus on areas such as nature, biodiversity and more sustainable methods of construction, fashion, infrastructure, and travel. We want to shine the light on green skills-based projects, ventures, and schemes across Wales – either by recognising individuals/projects or communities who are taking action, developing learning pathways and inspiring others.

[Groundwork North Wales Group](#) – 2022 award winner

